
Introduced by Senator Cedillo

February 6, 2003

An act to add Section 1250.15 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to health facilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 143, as introduced, Cedillo. Acute care hospitals: patient needs.

Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of general acute care hospitals, acute psychiatric hospitals, and other health facilities by the State Department of Health Services.

This bill would require the department to adopt regulations on or before January 1, 2010, to establish a common patient classification or acuity system to be used by all general acute care hospitals and acute psychiatric hospitals to determine the level of nursing care needed for each category of patient in each unit and on each shift.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The intent of the Legislature in enacting this act
2 is to do all of the following:
3 (a) Promote the public interest to assure that all residents of this
4 state have reasonable access to quality health care.
5 (b) Facilitate the provision of quality, cost-effective nursing
6 services in acute care hospitals.
7 (c) Establish a standard system of classifying patients in acute
8 care hospitals according to the severity of the medical condition of
9 each patient.

1 SEC. 2. Section 1250.15 is added to the Health and Safety
2 Code, to read:
3 1250.15. On or before January 1, 2010, the department shall
4 adopt regulations to establish a common patient classification or
5 acuity system to be used by all general acute care hospitals and
6 acute psychiatric hospitals to determine the level of nursing care
7 needed for each category of patient in each unit and on each shift.

